

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION OF DIARYL CARBONATES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An energy efficient series of mass and energy integrated reactive distillation columns and distillation columns are used to effect the production of diaryl carbonate. Utilizing the method or apparatus of the invention facilitates high diaryl carbonate production rates, and convenient recovery of unreacted starting materials and side-reaction products for recycle within the process for making diaryl carbonates or utilization in parallel reactions such as the manufacture of dialkyl carbonates. The method makes use of three reactive distillation columns and two rectification columns which are joined by a plurality of lines for transferring reactants and/or products into and out of the columns.